

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
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R 181735Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2204
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL GENOA
AMCONSUL MILAN
AMCONSUL NAPLES
AMCONSUL TURIN
AMCONSUL PALERMO
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN, GERMANY
USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 7214

USEC

USOECN ALSO FOR EMBASSY
USODOCOSOUTH FOR INTAF

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TAGS: ELAB, PINT, IT
SUBJECT: MACARIO HIGHLIGHTS CISL-CGIL DIFFERENCES

REF: ROME 6909

1. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. ON APRIL 14, JUST AS THE CGIL-
CISL-UIL (CCU) EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING (REFTEL AND PREVIOUS)
WAS DRAWING TO A CONCILIATORY CLOSE, CISL SECRETARY GENERAL
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LUIGI MACARIO REOPENED THE HOSTILITIES WITH THE CGIL. HE THUS
DISRUPTED THE EFFORTS AT MEDIATION FROM VARIOUS QUARTERS,
INCLUDING THE CGIL ITSELF, UIL REPUBLICAN VANNI, AND EVEN UIL
SECRETARY GENERAL BENVENUTO, WHO MIGHT OTHERWISE HAVE ENJOYED
THE CISL ATTACK, BUT WAS IN THE UNCOMFORTABLE POSITION, AS
RAPPORTEUR, OF TRYING TO GET EVERYONE TO AGREE TO APPROVE
HIS OPENING REPORT AND ON A CLOSING STATEMENT HE COULD MAKE.

LAMA FOLLOWED MACARIO WITH CONCILIATORY REMARKS, AND THE MEETING ENDED WITH BENVENUTO'S WRAP-UP AND UNANIMOUS ADOPTION OF A BRIEF CONCILIATORY CONCLUDING RESOLUTION. END SUMMARY. END LOU. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED.

2. "HAVING CHANGED THE POLITICAL FORMULA," MACARIO SAID "THEY BELIEVE THEY HAVE MADE ALL THE CHANGES NECESSARY, BUT DIFFICULTIES (KNOTS) REMAIN UNRESOLVED IN THE UNIONS" REGARDING "GREAT IDEALISTIC AND POLITICAL QUESTIONS LIKE THOSE OF CENTRALISM, OF PLURALISM, OF THE RELATION BETWEEN SOCIALISM AND DEMOCRACY, OF INTERNAL AND INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCES." THE RECENT CISL-CGIL POLEMICS, HE SAID, WERE "JUST THE TIP OF AN ICEBERG: THERE IS IN FACT AN OLD DISTRUST FOR THE PRACTICE, THE HISTORY, THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE CGIL." MACARIO CALLED FOR FRANK DIALOGUE, WHICH HE SAID CAN OVERCOME CONTRADICTIONS AND MISTRUST, BUT ONLY "IF THERE IS A REAL WILL NOT TO TRADE AWAY ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OBJECTIVES FOR POLITICAL OBJECTIVES, (IE.) IF THE UNIONS ARE NOT SUBALTERNATE, BUT AUTONOMOUS."

3. LAMA ANSWERED, APPEALING FOR ALL OF CCU TO JOIN TOGETHER, IN THE FACE OF THE TERRORIST THREAT TO ITALIAN DEMOCRACY, TO PURSUE THE CCU COMMON PROGRAM ADOPTED AT EUR AND SHOW THAT "LIFE CONTINUES IN ITALY". HE TOO WAS WORRIED ABOUT THE NEW POLITICAL SITUATION WHICH WOULD REQUIRE "MPRE ARDUOUS DEMONSTRATION OF CGIL AUTONOMY" IE. FROM THE PCI), BUT
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THIS WOULD BE "DONE DAY BY DAY, IN CONCRETE BEHAVIOR, MAKING WORDS AND DEEDS CORRESPOND, AND NOT IN IDEOLOGICAL DISCUSSIONS OR THOSE ON PRINCIPLES" WHICH COULD GO ON FOREVER. "WE HAVE ALL CHANGED IN THESE THIRTY YEARS AND (OR BUT?) EACH IS PROUD OF HIS OWN IDENTITY", LAMA SAID, ADDING THAT ITALIAN LABOR'S PLURALISM IS ITS STRENGTH. IN EVIDENT RESPONSE TO MACARIO'S REFERENCE TO INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCES, LAMA EMPHASIZED THAT CGIL INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY ALDO BONACCINI WAS JUST THAT MOMENT IN PRAGUE TO SEVER CGIL'S ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP IN WFTU. LAMA CAREFULLY REFRAINED FROM ANY REFERENCE TO MACARIO'S WASHINGTON VISIT.

4. COMMENT. END UNCLASSIFIED. BEGIN LOU. DESPITE UNANIMOUS ADOPTION OF A CLOSING COMMUNIQUE AND CONCILIATORY REMARKS AFTERWARD, DIVERGENCIES PERSIST AND SEEM BOUND TO CONTINUE TO GROW. THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING PROVIDED FURTHER EVIDENCE THAT BOTH MACARIO AND CISL DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL PIERRE CARNITI ARE MOVING TOWARD A MORE MODERATE POSITION IN THE CENTER OF THE CISL SPECTRUM, THAT CONSENSUS IS BEING RE-CREATED IN CISL, AND THAT CISL MINORITY LEADER FRANCO MARINI (WHOM MANY CONSIDER THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S MAN IN TRUST IN CISL) MAY BE WINNING THE WAR (AFTER LOSING

THE BATTLE AT LAST JUNE'S CISL CONVENTION) BY GRADUALLY
BRINGING CARNITI (AND MACARIO) AROUND TO MANY OF HIS OWN
IDEAS. END LOU. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. A CASE IN POINT IS THAT
CARNITI, LIKE MARINI, UNEQUIVOCABLY ENDORSED THE DEPARTMENT'S
JANUARY 12 STATEMENT, DURING THEIR PRIVATE CONVERSATION
WITH THE AMBASSADOR MACH 31 (MEMCON BEING POUCHED TO
EUR/WE, GOOTT, INR AND LABOR). CARNITI, AND MACARIO,
MAY ALSO FEEL THAT, HAVING WON THEIR CONVENTION VICTORY,
THEIR BREAD IS NOW BUTTERED ON THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC
SIDE. GARDNER

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